

S/N 10/521,630

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	UEDA et al.	Examiner:	L. NGUYEN
Serial No.:	10/521,630	Group Art Unit:	2627
Filed:	January 19, 2005	Docket No.:	10873.1556USWO
Title:	DEFICIENCY DETECTING APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL DISK		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 15, 2008.

By: Mele Cauffman

Name: Mele Cauffman

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop: ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

The Applicants would like to clarify the record regarding the Allowable Subject Matter included in the Notice of Allowance mailed August 8, 2008, particularly to reflect the differences between claim 1 and claim 7. Applicants suggest the following changes to the current reasons for allowance.

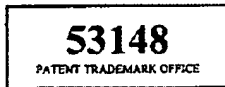
In regards to claim 1 ~~and 7~~, none of the references alone or in combination discloses a deficiency detecting section for comparing a threshold value determined by calculating a non-fixed variable value that varies depending on the emitting power of the laser light source adjusted by the power adjusting section with a value corresponding to reflected light that is the light beam reflected by a an information layer of the information medium, and detecting the deficiencies on the information layer in accordance with a result of the comparison.

A separate paragraph could be provided regarding claim 7, for example along the following lines.

In regards to claim 7, none of the references alone or in combination discloses "a deficiency detecting section for amplifying a signal corresponding to reflected light that



is the light beam reflected by an information layer of the information medium at an amplification factor determined by calculating a non-fixed variable value that varies depending on the emitting power of the laser light source adjusted by the power adjusting section so as to generate a signal for amplified reflected light amount, and for comparing a value corresponding to the signal for the amplified reflected light amount with a predetermined threshold value and detecting the deficiencies on the information layer in accordance with a result of the comparison."



Dated: September 15, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &  
LARSON, P.C.  
P.O. Box 2902  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902  
(612) 455-3800

By: 

Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300  
DPM/mkc